Iran-Pakistan-India Gas Pipeline Project

234. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Iran, India and Pakistan have Secretary level meeting regarding the 7 billion dollar Iran-Pakistan-India Gas Pipeline Project; and

(b) if so, the details of decision taken in the meeting and progress made on the materialization of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The 4th Tripartite Joint Working Group meeting of Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) Gas Pipeline Project between the three countries was held in Tehran, Iran on January 24-25, 2007. During the meeting, discussions were held on the report submitted by the consultant on the gas price. The gas price at Iran-Pakistan border was agreed between Iran and Pakistan side, subject to approval from the respective Governments. The Indian side agreed to respond within a period of four weeks.

Subsequently, an Indian delegation participated in the bilateral meeting with Pakistan on February 22-23, 2007 to discuss the issues relating to transit of IPI Pipeline through Pakistan. Iran attended the meeting as an Observer. The issues pertaining to transportation tariff and transit fees for passage of gas through Pakistan were discussed.

"Atithi Devo Bhavah' awareness campaign in Uttarakhand

235. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered to start 'Atithi Devo Bhavah' awareness campaign in Uttarakhand which is the highest tourism destination from the religious point of view;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) In the current financial year, a countrywide Awareness Campaign for sensitising the Public against Garbage and Graffiti at monuments has